



# City of Detroit

CITY COUNCIL

**MARY SHEFFIELD**  
CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT  
DISTRICT 5

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** David Whitaker, Director, Legislative Policy Division  
**FROM:** Mary Sheffield, President, Detroit City Council  
**DATE:** March 10, 2023  
**RE:** 2% Ticket Surcharge for Events

Detroit's Arena District is regularly touted as the second busiest event venue in the Country, bringing thousand of Detroiters and non-Detroiters alike to the downtown area. While the City does see some economic benefits of these events, the ticket revenue for these events goes solely to Olympia Development/venue owner. The ability to raise capital from tickets sales could be a vital tool for increasing revenue to the City.

- What would be the process for establishing a 2% Entertainment surcharge on events in the arena district?
- What would be the anticipated annual revenue were such a surcharge approved?

Please contact Ari Ruttenberg from my office at [ruttenberga@detroitmi.gov](mailto:ruttenberga@detroitmi.gov) if you have any questions.

Cc: Honorable Colleagues  
City Clerk